

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

S E C R E T ANKARA 004486

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EB/TRA/AN, NEA/NGA AND EUR/SE
BAGHDAD FOR COMBINED AIR OPERATIONS CENTER

E.O. 12958: DECL: ANNOUNCEMENT OF INITIAL AIR CARRIERS SELECTED FOR SER
VICE TO BAGHDAD
TAGS: [FAIR](#) [IZ](#) [PREL](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: GOT AGREES TO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE
IRAQI/TURKISH AIRSPACE AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 196020
[B](#). ANKARA 4268
[C](#). EAYRS/OLIVER EMAIL 7/16/03
[D](#). STATE CPA UPDATE EMAIL 7/15/03

[1](#). (U) Classified by Deputy Chief of Mission Robert Deutsch
for reasons 1.5 (B) and (D).

[2](#). (U) Baghdad minimize considered.

[3](#). (SBU) At a July 14 meeting with Assistant Air Attache and
Econoff, MFA and Civil Aviation Authority (Turkish acronym
DHMI) representatives agreed to receive a U.S. Combined Air
Operations Center (CAOC) delegation on July 24 and 25 to
arrange coordinated control of civilian air traffic between
Turkey and Iraq. Per ref C, Embassy understands that the
CAOC group has accepted this proposal. Vakur Gokdenizler,
MFA Deputy Director General for Maritime and Aviation
Affairs, and Ayhan Oztekin, of DHMI, raised several,
primarily technical, issues in relation to the agreement:
use of a standard International Civil Aviation Organization
(ICAO) letter of agreement (LOA) in lieu of the document
proposed by CAOC; timing for resumption of civilian flights
to Baghdad; selection criteria for the airlines; RVSM
transition from Turkey to Iraq; difficulties in telephone
communication with Iraq from Turkey; rationale for dividing
Iraq into three airspace sectors. Per ref C, we understand
that CAOC has been in direct contact with MFA and DHMI on
several of these issues.

[4](#). (S) Ref D reports that Turkish Airlines' application to
start civilian flights to Baghdad will not be approved.
Turkish Airlines is apparently not being considered for
either the regional or interantional service to be allowed.
Embassy requests talking points explaining this decision and
strongly recommends that the CAOC team come to Ankara
prepared to discuss this issue as well.
PEARSON